



**STATE OF MISSOURI
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION
DIVISION OF PURCHASING AND MATERIALS MANAGEMENT (DPMM)
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

RFP NO. B3Z05082

TITLE: Private Provider Immunization Assessment

ISSUE DATE: 12/07/04

REQ#: NR 580 41040500264

BUYER: John Hall

PHONE NO.: (573) 522-1620

E-MAIL: john.hall@oa.mo.gov

RETURN PROPOSAL NO LATER THAN: 12/29/04 AT 2:00 PM

MAILING INSTRUCTIONS: Print or type **RFP Number** and **Return Due Date** on the lower left hand corner of the envelope or package. Proposals must be in DPMM office (301 W High St, Rm 630) by the return date and time.

RETURN PROPOSAL TO: **DPMM** or **DPMM**
P O BOX 809 **301 WEST HIGH ST, RM 630**
JEFFERSON CITY MO 65102-0809 **JEFFERSON CITY MO 65101**

CONTRACT PERIOD: Date of Award through December 31, 2005

DELIVER SUPPLIES/SERVICES FOB DESTINATION TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

*Department of Health and Senior Services
Section for Communicable Disease Prevention
Vaccines for Children Program
Post Office Box 570
Jefferson City MO 65102-0570*

The offeror hereby declares understanding, agreement and certification of compliance to provide the items and/or services, at the prices quoted, in accordance with all requirements and specifications contained herein and the Terms and Conditions Request for Proposal (Revised 08/28/04). The offeror further agrees that the language of this RFP shall govern in the event of a conflict with his/her proposal. The offeror further agrees that upon receipt of an authorized purchase order from the Division of Purchasing and Materials Management or when this RFP is countersigned by an authorized official of the State of Missouri, a binding contract shall exist between the offeror and the State of Missouri.

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE		DATE	
PRINTED NAME		TITLE	
COMPANY NAME			
MAILING ADDRESS			
CITY, STATE, ZIP			
FEDERAL EMPLOYER ID NO.		SOCIAL SECURITY NO. IF FEDERAL EMPLOYER ID NO. NOT APPLICABLE	
PHONE NO.	FAX NO.		E-MAIL ADDRESS

NOTICE OF AWARD (STATE USE ONLY)

ACCEPTED BY STATE OF MISSOURI AS FOLLOWS:		
CONTRACT NO.	VENDOR NO.	CONTRACT PERIOD
BUYER	DATE	DIRECTOR

1. INTRODUCTION AND GENERAL INFORMATION**1.1 Introduction:**

1.1.1 This document constitutes a request for competitive, sealed proposals for the provision of private provider immunization assessment services as set forth herein.

1.1.2 Organization - This document, referred to as a Request for Proposal (RFP), is divided into the following parts:

- 1) Introduction and General Information
- 2) Contractual Requirements
- 3) Proposal Submission Information
- 4) Pricing Page
- 5) Exhibits A - E
- 6) Terms and Conditions

1.2 Background Information:

1.2.1 The Vaccines for Children (VFC) program is a federally funded program administered by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. The VFC program provides free vaccine to eligible children birth through 18 years of age. The eligible children obtain the free vaccine from health care providers enrolled in the VFC program.

1.2.2 Although an attempt has been made to provide accurate and up-to-date information, the State of Missouri does not warrant or represent that the background information provided herein reflects all relationships or existing conditions related to this Request for Proposal.

2. CONTRACTUAL REQUIREMENTS

2.1 General Requirements:

2.1.1 The contractor shall conduct activities that contribute to an increase of Missouri pediatric immunization rates through the provision of private provider immunization assessment services on behalf of the Department of Health and Senior Services (hereinafter referred to as the state agency).

2.1.2 The contractor's private provider immunization assessment services shall include, but not be limited to:

- a. Vaccines for Children (VFC) health care provider site visits, including Clinic Assessment Software Application (CASA) assessments site visits and Assessment, Feedback, Incentives, and Information eXchange (AFIX) processes; and
- b. Non-VFC health care provider CASA/AFIX processes including follow-up site visits.

Vaccines for Children (VFC) health care providers and non-VFC health care providers (hereinafter collectively referred to as health care providers).

Information regarding the VFC program, CASA, and AFIX may be obtained from the Internet at:

- 1) <http://www.cdc.gov/nip/vfc/Default.htm>
- 2) <http://www.cdc.gov/nip/casa/Default.htm>
- 3) <http://www.cdc.gov/nip/afix/default.htm>

2.1.3 The contractor shall perform all services in accordance with the provisions and requirements stated herein and to the sole satisfaction of the state agency.

2.2 Specific Requirements:

2.2.1 The contractor must provide a project coordinator as well as a site visit team(s). The contractor's team must be comprised of a physician to act as the medical director, a registered nurse, and another individual with experience as an office manager of a health care clinic.

- a. The physician must be licensed in accordance with Chapter 334 of the Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri (RSMo) and the nurse must be licensed in accordance with Chapter 335 RSMo.
- b. Upon assigning the physician and nurse to the team, the contractor shall provide the state agency with a copy of the physician's license and the registered nurses license. The contractor shall submit a new copy of the license to the state agency each year.
- c. The contractor shall provide qualified personnel who must comply with the provisions and requirements stated herein. Therefore, references to "the contractor" throughout this document shall also be deemed to include the person(s) provided by the contractor

2.2.2 VFC Health Care Providers –

- a. The state agency will provide the contractor with a list of VFC health care providers in the State of Missouri. Currently, there are approximately 730 VFC health care providers in the State of Missouri. The contractor shall collaborate with the state agency to prioritize the list of VFC health care providers that services shall be conducted for.
 - 1) The contractor shall contact the VFC health care providers to schedule visits to perform VFC site visits, which includes CASA/AFIX site visits, for the health care providers that were identified as a priority on the list. The contractor shall provide service to a maximum of ten (10) VFC health care providers.

- b. The contractor shall conduct VFC site visits, including CASA assessments and AFIX processes, at the offices of VFC health care providers.
 - 1) The contractor shall conduct clinic-based assessments of health providers using the “classic CASA” model and the CASA software. Additionally, the contractor shall review the healthcare providers clinic practices using the *Standards for Pediatric Immunization Practices*.
 - 2) The contractor shall provide verbal feedback at the time of the visit and written feedback within ten (10) calendar days of the visit on the results of the assessment and review to the non-VFC health care provider.
- c. The contractor shall identify and make recommendations for improvement to the VFC health care providers at the time of the site visit. Additionally, the contractor, in collaboration with the health care provider, shall develop improvement goals and a follow-up/action plan to strive to reach the improvement goals.

2.2.3 Non-VFC Health Care Providers –

- a. The contractor shall identify and recruit non-VFC health care providers to schedule CASA/AFIX visits. The contractor shall verify that these non-VFC providers are not VFC providers using a list of supplied by the state agency.
- b. The contractor shall contact non-VFC health care providers to schedule Clinic Assessment Software Application (CASA) assessments and Assessment, Feedback, Incentives, and Information eXchange (AFIX) processes. The contractor shall provide service to a maximum of 50 non-VFC health care providers.
- c. The contractor shall conduct CASA assessments and AFIX processes at the offices of a maximum of 50 non-VFC health care providers.
 - 1) The contractor shall conduct clinic-based assessments of health providers using the “classic CASA” model and the CASA software. Additionally, the contractor shall review the healthcare providers clinic practices using the *Standards for Pediatric Immunization Practices*.
 - 2) The contractor shall provide verbal feedback at the time of the visit and written feedback within ten (10) working days of the visit on the results of the assessment and review to the non-VFC health care provider.
- d. The state agency will provide a template for all necessary site visit forms to the contractor. The contractor is responsible for reproducing the forms for each visit.
- e. The contractor shall identify and make recommendations for improvement to the non-VFC health care providers at the time of the site visit. Additionally, the contractor, in collaboration with the health care provider, shall develop improvement goals and a follow-up/action plan to strive to reach the improvement goals.
- f. The contractor may, at the contractor’s discretion, conduct up to 15 follow-up visits to providers to evaluate progress in implementation of the follow-up/action plan. The follow-up/action plan is developed when the initial visit to a provider is conducted.

2.2.4 The contractor shall perform VFC site visits, AFIX site visits, and CASAs in accordance with the standards and guidelines contained in the VFC/AFIX Site Visit Manual produced and distributed by the state agency and any additional guidance received from the state agency’s Section for Communicable Disease Prevention. Follow-up visits shall be in accordance with the standards and guidelines contained in the VFC/AFIX Site Visit Manual.

2.2.5 The contractor shall verbally recommend, and follow up in writing with ten 10 calendar days of the visit, effective strategies to the health care provider to increase childhood immunization rates. The contractor shall also provide sufficient follow-up and support to ensure the success of the strategies.

2.2.6 Within ten (10) calendar days of any assessment and/or site visit, the contractor shall submit a written report of all assessment and site visit information to the state agency.

2.2.7 The contractor shall participate in bi-monthly meetings or as requested with the state agency in Jefferson City, Missouri.

2.3 Reporting Requirements:

2.3.1 The contractor shall submit the following reports on a monthly basis to the state agency for each completed non-VFC CASA/AFIX process, per completed follow-up CASA/AFIX visit, and per completed VFC health care provider CASA/AFIX site visit:

- a. An electronic copy in a format requested by the state agency of each appropriately completed CASA clinic-based assessment, and
- b. A summary of the CASA/AFIX processes or follow-up visit, including a list of both contractor and provider participants, date of the site visit, and a narrative summary of the recommendations for improvement made by the contractor, progress toward achieving previously-identified improvement goals, any discussion, and the agreed upon follow-up/action plan.

2.4 Miscellaneous Requirements:

2.4.1 The state agency will monitor performance of the contractor through site visits to ensure financial and contractual compliance and to review submitted documentation to ensure appropriateness of assessments, improvement strategies, and follow-up actions taken.

2.4.2 The contract shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Missouri. The contractor shall comply with all federal and state laws applicable to the contract including, but not limited to, those laws authorizing or governing the use of the federal funds paid to the contractor through the contract, such as the Social Security Act, Title V, Section 510, as amended; 42 U.S.C. 710, as amended; 45 C.F.R. Part 96; and any program guidelines.

2.4.3 The contractor must not utilize funds received pursuant to the contract to offset or supplant any funding currently supporting any services included herein.

2.4.4 Unless otherwise specified herein, the contractor shall furnish all material, labor, facilities, equipment, and supplies necessary to perform the services required herein.

2.5 Business Associate Provisions:

2.5.1 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) - - The state agency is subject to and must comply with provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and all regulations promulgated pursuant to authority granted therein. The contractor constitutes a "Business Associate" of the state agency as such term is defined in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 45 CFR 160.103. Therefore, the term, "contractor" as used in this section shall mean "Business Associate."

- a. The contractor shall agree and understand that for purposes of the Business Associate Provisions contained herein, terms used but not otherwise defined shall have the same meaning as those terms defined in 45 CFR parts 160 and 164, including, but not limited to the following:
 - 1) "Individual" shall have the same meaning as the term "individual" in 45 CFR 164.501 and shall include a person who qualifies as a personal representative in accordance with 45 CFR 164.502 (g).
 - 2) "Privacy Rule" shall mean the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information at 45 CFR part 160 and part 164, subparts A and E.

- b. The contractor shall agree the state agency must comply with 45 CFR 160 and 45 CFR 164, as currently in effect and as may be amended at some later date, and that to achieve such compliance, the contractor must appropriately safeguard Protected Health Information (as that term is defined in 45 CFR 164.501), which the contractor receives from or creates or receives on behalf of the state agency. To provide reasonable assurance of appropriate safeguards, the contractor shall comply with the business associate provisions stated herein.
- c. The state agency and the contractor agree to amend the contract as is necessary for the state agency to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Rule and HIPAA requirements.
- d. For additional information, 45 CFR 160 and 45 CFR 164 can be downloaded from the Internet at the following Internet addresses. However, the most current requirements shall be those which are published in the Code of Federal Regulations.
 - 1) 45 CFR 160 can be downloaded at:
http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_03/45cfr160_03.html
 - 2) 45 CFR 164 can be downloaded at
http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_03/45cfr164_03.html

2.5.2 Permitted uses and disclosures of Protected Health Information:

- a. The contractor may use or disclose Protected Health Information to perform functions, activities, or services for, or on behalf of, the state agency as specified in the contract, provided that such use or disclosure would not violate the Privacy Rule as the Privacy Rule applies to the state agency.
- b. The contractor may use Protected Health Information to report violations of law to appropriate Federal and State authorities, consistent with 45 CFR 164.502(j)(1) and shall notify the state agency by no later than ten (10) calendar days after the contractor becomes aware of the disclosure of the Protected Health Information.
- c. If required to properly perform the contract and subject to the terms of the contract, the contractor may use or disclose Protected Health Information if necessary for the proper management and administration of the contractor's business.
- d. If the disclosure is required by law, the contractor may disclose Protected Health Information to carry out the legal responsibilities of the contractor.

2.5.3 Obligations of the Contractor:

- a. The contractor shall not use or disclose Protected Health Information other than as permitted or required by the contract or as otherwise required by law.
- b. The contractor shall use appropriate safeguards to prevent use or disclosure of the Protected Health Information other than as provided for by the contract. Such safeguards may include, but shall not be limited to:
 - 1) Workforce training on the appropriate uses and disclosures of Protected Health Information pursuant to the terms of the contract.
 - 2) Policies and procedures implemented by the contractor to prevent inappropriate uses and disclosures of Protected Health Information by its workforce.
 - 3) Any other safeguards necessary to prevent the inappropriate use or disclosure of Protected Health Information.
- c. The contractor shall require that any agent or subcontractor to whom the contractor provides any Protected Health Information received from, created by, or received by the contractor pursuant to the contract, also

agrees to the same restrictions and conditions stated herein that apply to the contractor with respect to such information.

- d. By no later than ten (10) calendar days of receipt of a written request from the state agency, or as otherwise required by state or federal law or regulation, or by another time as may be agreed upon in writing by the state agency, the contractor shall make the contractor's internal practices, books, and records, including policies and procedures and Protected Health Information, relating to the use and disclosure of Protected Health Information received from, created by, or received by the contractor on behalf of the state agency available to the state agency and/or to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services or designee for purposes of determining compliance with the Privacy Rule.
- e. The contractor shall document any disclosures and information related to such disclosures of Protected Health Information as would be required for the state agency to respond to a request by an individual for an accounting of disclosures of Protected Health Information in accordance with 45 CFR 164.528. By no later than five (5) calendar days of receipt of a written request from the state agency, or as otherwise required by state or federal law or regulation, or by another time as may be agreed upon in writing by the state agency, the contractor shall provide an accounting of disclosures of Protected Health Information regarding an individual to the state agency.
- f. In order to meet the requirements under 45 CFR 164.524, the contractor shall, within five (5) calendar days following a state agency request, or as otherwise required by state or federal law or regulation, or by another time as may be agreed upon in writing by the state agency, provide the state agency access to the Protected Health Information in an individual's Designated Record Set. However, if requested by the state agency, the contractor shall provide access to the Protected Health Information in a Designated Record Set directly to the individual for whom such information relates.
- g. At the direction of the state agency, the contractor shall promptly make any amendment(s) to Protected Health Information in a Designated Record Set pursuant to 45 CFR 164.526.
- h. By no later than five (5) calendar days after the contractor becomes aware of any use or disclosure of the Protected Health Information not permitted or required as stated herein, the contractor shall notify the state agency's Privacy Officer, in writing, of the unauthorized use or disclosure and shall take immediate action to stop the unauthorized use or disclosure. The contractor shall include a description of any remedial action taken to mitigate any harmful effect of such disclosure. The contractor shall also provide the state agency's Privacy Officer with a proposed written plan of action for approval that describes plans for preventing any such future unauthorized uses or disclosures.

2.5.4 Obligations of the State Agency:

- a. The state agency shall notify the contractor of limitation(s) that may affect the contractor's use or disclosure of Protected Health Information, by providing the contractor with the state agency's notice of privacy practices in accordance with 45 CFR 164.520.
- b. The state agency shall notify the contractor of any changes in, or revocation of, authorization by an individual to use or disclose Protected Health Information.
- c. The state agency shall notify the contractor of any restriction to the use or disclosure of Protected Health Information that the state agency has agreed to in accordance with 45 CFR 164.522.
- d. The state agency shall not request the contractor to use or disclose Protected Health Information in any manner that would not be permissible under the Privacy Rule as the Privacy Rule applies to the state agency.

2.5.5 Expiration/Termination/Cancellation - Except as provided in the subparagraph below, upon the expiration, termination, or cancellation of the contract for any reason, the contractor shall return to the state agency or shall destroy all Protected Health Information received by the contractor from the state agency, or created or received by the contractor on behalf of the state agency, and shall not retain any copies of such Protected Health

Information. This provision shall also apply to Protected Health Information that is in the possession of subcontractors or agents of the contractor.

- a. In the event the contractor determines and the state agency agrees that returning or destroying the Protected Health Information is not feasible, the contractor shall extend the protections of the contract to the Protected Health Information for as long as the contractor maintains the Protected Health Information and shall limit the use and disclosure of the Protected Health Information to those purposes that made return or destruction of the information infeasible. If at any time it becomes feasible to return or destroy any such Protected Health Information maintained pursuant to this paragraph, the contractor must notify the state agency and obtain instructions from the state agency for either the return or destruction of the Protected Health Information.

2.5.6 Breach of Contract - In the event the contractor is in breach of contract with regard to the business associate provisions included herein, the contractor shall agree and understand that in addition to the requirements of the contract related to cancellation of contract, if the state agency determines that cancellation of the contract is not feasible, the State of Missouri may elect not to cancel the contract, but the state agency shall report the contractual breach to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services.

2.6 Invoicing and Payment Requirements:

2.6.1 Immediately upon award of the contract, the contractor needs to submit or must have already submitted a properly completed State Vendor ACH/EFT Application, since the State of Missouri intends to make contract payments through Electronic Funds Transfer.

- a. If not already submitted, the contractor needs to obtain a copy of the State Vendor ACH/EFT Application and completion instructions from the Internet at:

<http://www.oa.mo.gov/purch/vendorinfo/vendorach.pdf>

- b. The contractor must submit a unique invoice number with each invoice submitted. The unique invoice number will be listed on the State of Missouri's EFT addendum record to enable the contractor to properly apply the state agency's payment to the invoice submitted.

2.6.2 Invoicing –

- a. The contractor shall submit an original, itemized, uniquely identifiable invoice on letterhead with the signature of a legally authorized representative for the contractor. Uniquely identifiable means that the particular invoice or bill can be distinguished from a previously submitted invoice or bill.
- b. The contractor shall submit invoices on a monthly basis within 45 calendar days following the month in which the site visits were completed, unless prior written approval has been granted by the state agency.
- c. The contractor shall submit all invoices to:

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
Section for Communicable Disease Prevention
Attn: Fiscal and Operations Unit
PO Box 570
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0570

2.6.3 Payments –

- a. Upon receipt and approval of a properly prepared invoice, the state agency shall pay the contractor in accordance with the applicable price stated on the Pricing Page for each completed non-FVC health care provider CASA/AFIX process, per completed follow-up CASA/AFIX visit, and per completed VFC health care provider CASA/AFIX site visit.

- b. The total payment to the contractor shall not exceed \$100,000.00.
- c. If it is mutually agreed upon by the state agency and the contractor that the contractor was overpaid by the state agency, the contractor shall issue a check made payable to the "DHSS-DOA Fee Receipts" within ten (10) calendar days of official notification by the state agency and shall mail the payment to:

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
Division of Administration
Fee Receipts
P.O. Box 570
920 Wildwood Drive
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0570

- d. The state agency shall not be obligated to pay monthly invoices received thirty (30) calendar days or more past the due date. The state agency shall not be obligated to pay the final invoice if submitted thirty-one (31) or more calendar days past the contract expiration date.
- e. Failure of the contractor to submit required reports when due shall result in the withholding or rejection of payment. Additionally, the state agency shall reject payment for the contractor's failure to perform or deliver the required work or services.

2.6.4 Other than the payments specified above, no other payments or reimbursements shall be made to the contractor.

2.7 Other Contractual Requirements:

2.7.1 Contract - A binding contract shall consist of: (1) the RFP, amendments thereto, and any Best and Final Offer (BAFO) request(s) with RFP changes/additions, (2) the contractor's proposal including any BAFOs and (3) the Division of Purchasing and Materials Management's acceptance of the proposal by "notice of award" or by "purchase order". All Exhibits and Attachments included in the RFP and all reporting forms and protocols, and other related materials referenced herein shall be incorporated into the contract by reference.

- a. The notice of award does not constitute a directive to proceed. Before providing equipment, supplies and/or services, the contractor must receive a properly authorized purchase order.
- b. The contract expresses the complete agreement of the parties and performance shall be governed solely by the specifications and requirements contained therein.
- c. Any change to the contract, whether by modification and/or supplementation, must be accomplished by a formal contract amendment signed and approved by and between the duly authorized representative of the contractor and the Division of Purchasing and Materials Management or by a modified purchase order prior to the effective date of such modification. The contractor expressly and explicitly understands and agrees that no other method and/or no other document, including correspondence from the state agency, acts, and oral communications by or from any person, shall be used or construed as an amendment or modification to the contract.

2.7.2 Contract Period - The original contract period shall be as stated in the Request for Proposal (RFP). The contract shall not bind, nor purport to bind, the state for any contractual commitment in excess of the original contract period. The Division of Purchasing and Materials Management shall have the right, at its sole option, to renew the contract for three (3) additional one-year periods, or any portion thereof. In the event the Division of Purchasing and Materials Management exercises such right, all terms and conditions, requirements and specifications of the contract shall remain the same and apply during the renewal period, pursuant to applicable option clauses of this document.

- 2.7.3 **Renewal Periods** - If the option for renewal is exercised by the Division of Purchasing and Materials Management, the contractor shall agree that the prices for the renewal period shall not exceed the maximum price for the applicable renewal period stated on the Pricing Page of the contract.
- a. If renewal prices are not provided, then prices during renewal periods shall be the same as during the original contract period.
 - b. The Division of Purchasing and Materials Management does not automatically exercise its option for renewal based upon the maximum price and reserves the right to offer or to request renewal of the contract at a price less than the maximum price stated.
- 2.7.4 **Termination** - The Division of Purchasing and Materials Management reserves the right to terminate the contract at any time, for the convenience of the State of Missouri, without penalty or recourse, by giving written notice to the contractor at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the effective date of such termination. The contractor shall be entitled to receive just and equitable compensation for services and/or supplies delivered to and accepted by the State of Missouri pursuant to the contract prior to the effective date of termination.
- 2.7.5 **Contractor Liability** - The contractor shall be responsible for any and all personal injury (including death) or property damage as a result of the contractor's negligence involving any equipment or service provided under the terms and conditions, requirements and specifications of the contract. In addition, the contractor assumes the obligation to save the State of Missouri, including its agencies, employees, and assignees, from every expense, liability, or payment arising out of such negligent act. The contractor also agrees to hold the State of Missouri, including its agencies, employees, and assignees, harmless for any negligent act or omission committed by any subcontractor or other person employed by or under the supervision of the contractor under the terms of the contract.
- a. The contractor shall not be responsible for any injury or damage occurring as a result of any negligent act or omission committed by the State of Missouri, including its agencies, employees, and assignees.
 - b. Under no circumstances shall the contractor be liable for any of the following: (1) third party claims against the state for losses or damages (other than those listed above); (2) loss of, or damage to, the state's records or data; or (3) economic consequential damages (including lost profits or savings) or incidental damages, even if the contractor is informed of their possibility.
- 2.7.6 **Insurance** - The contractor shall understand and agree that the State of Missouri cannot save and hold harmless and/or indemnify the contractor or employees against any liability incurred or arising as a result of any activity of the contractor or any activity of the contractor's employees related to the contractor's performance under the contract. Therefore, the contractor must acquire and maintain adequate liability insurance in the form(s) and amount(s) sufficient to protect the State of Missouri, its agencies, its employees, its clients, and the general public against any such loss, damage and/or expense related to his/her performance under the contract.
- 2.7.7 **Subcontractors** –
- a. The contractor may subcontract with other governmental agencies or community-based organizations (CBOs). If the contractor subcontracts with a CBO, said organization must have 501(c) (3) nonprofit status or evidence of filing for said status.
 - b. Any subcontracts for the products/services described herein must include appropriate provisions and contractual obligations to ensure the successful fulfillment of all contractual obligations agreed to by the contractor and the State of Missouri, including the civil rights requirements set forth in 19 CSR 10-2.010(5) (A)-(L), and to ensure that the State of Missouri is indemnified, saved, and held harmless from and against any and all claims of damage, loss, and cost (including attorney fees) of any kind related to a subcontract in those matters described in the contract between the State of Missouri and the contractor. The contractor shall expressly understand and agree that he/she shall assume and be solely responsible for all legal and financial responsibilities related to the execution of a subcontract. The contractor shall agree and understand that utilization of a subcontractor to provide any of the products/services in the contract shall in no way relieve

the contractor of the responsibility for providing the products/services as described and set forth herein. The contractor must obtain the approval of the State of Missouri prior to establishing any new subcontracting arrangements and before changing any subcontractors. The approval shall not be arbitrarily withheld.

- 2.7.8 Substitution of Personnel - The contractor agrees and understands that the State of Missouri's agreement to the contract is predicated in part on the utilization of the specific individual(s) and/or personnel qualifications identified in the proposal. Therefore, the contractor agrees that no substitution of such specific individual(s) and/or personnel qualifications shall be made without the prior written approval of the state agency. The contractor further agrees that any substitution made pursuant to this paragraph must be equal or better than originally proposed and that the state agency's approval of a substitution shall not be construed as an acceptance of the substitution's performance potential. The State of Missouri agrees that an approval of a substitution will not be unreasonably withheld.
- 2.7.9 Contractor Status - The contractor represents himself or herself to be an independent contractor offering such services to the general public and shall not represent himself/herself or his/her employees to be an employee of the State of Missouri. Therefore, the contractor shall assume all legal and financial responsibility for taxes, FICA, employee fringe benefits, workers compensation, employee insurance, minimum wage requirements, overtime, etc., and agrees to indemnify, save, and hold the State of Missouri, its officers, agents, and employees, harmless from and against, any and all loss; cost (including attorney fees); and damage of any kind related to such matters.
- 2.7.10 Coordination - The contractor shall fully coordinate all contract activities with those activities of the state agency. As the work of the contractor progresses, advice and information on matters covered by the contract shall be made available by the contractor to the state agency or the Division of Purchasing and Materials Management throughout the effective period of the contract.
- 2.7.11 Property of State - All reports, documentation, and material developed or acquired by the contractor as a direct requirement specified in the contract shall become the property of the State of Missouri. The contractor shall agree and understand that all discussions with the contractor and all information gained by the contractor as a result of the contractor's performance under the contract shall be confidential and that no reports, documentation, or material prepared as required by the contract shall be released to the public without the prior written consent of the state agency.
- 2.7.12 Federal Funds Requirement - The contractor shall understand and agree that this procurement may involve the expenditure of federal funds. Therefore, in accordance with the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, Public Law 101-166, Section 511, "Steven's Amendment", the contractor shall not issue any statements, press releases, and other documents describing projects or programs funded in whole or in part with Federal money unless the prior approval of the state agency is obtained and unless they clearly state the following as provided by the state agency:
- a. the percentage of the total costs of the program or project which will be financed with Federal money;
 - b. the dollar amount of Federal funds for the project or program; and
 - c. percentage and dollar amount of the total costs of the project or program that will be financed by nongovernmental sources.

3. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION INFORMATION

3.1 Submission of Proposals:

3.1.1 ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS THROUGH THE ON-LINE BIDDING WEB SITE IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR THIS RFP.

3.1.2 When submitting a proposal, the offeror should include four (4) additional copies along with their original proposal for a total of five (5). The front cover of the original proposal should be labeled “original” and the front cover of all copies should be labeled “copy”.

- a. Both the original and the copies should be printed on recycled paper and double sided. All proposals and copies should minimize or eliminate the use of non-recyclable materials such as plastic report covers, plastic dividers, vinyl sleeves, and binding.
- b. Imaging Ready – In addition, all proposals are scanned into the Division of Purchasing and Materials Management imaging system after a contract is executed, or all proposals are rejected.
 - 1) The scanned information will be able to be viewed through the Internet from the Public Record Search system. Therefore, the offeror is advised not to include personal identifying information such as social security numbers in the proposal.
 - 2) In preparing a proposal, the offeror should be mindful of document preparation efforts for imaging purposes and storage capacity that will be required to image the proposals. Glue bound materials should not be used.

3.1.3 To facilitate the evaluation process, the offeror is encouraged to organize their proposal into distinctive sections that correspond with the individual evaluation categories described herein. The offeror is cautioned that it is the offeror’s sole responsibility to submit information related to the evaluation categories and that the State of Missouri is under no obligation to solicit such information if it is not included with the proposal. The offeror’s failure to submit such information may cause an adverse impact on the evaluation of the proposal.

- a. Each distinctive section should be titled with each individual evaluation category and all material related to that category should be included therein.
- b. The proposal should be page numbered.
- c. The signed page one from the original RFP and all signed amendments should be placed at the beginning of the proposal.

3.1.4 Offeror’s Contacts:

- a. Offerors and their agents (including subcontractors, employees, consultants, or anyone else acting on their behalf) must direct all of their questions or comments regarding the RFP, the evaluation, etc. to the buyer of record indicated on the first page of this RFP. The buyer may be contacted via e-mail or phone as shown on the first page, or via facsimile to 573-526-9817. The offeror may contact the Office of Equal Opportunity regarding MBE/WBE certification or subcontracting with MBE/WBE companies at (877) 259-2963 or (573) 751-8130 or by fax at (573) 522-8078.
- b. Offerors and their agents may not contact any other state employee regarding any of these matters during the solicitation and evaluation process. Inappropriate contacts are grounds for suspension and/or exclusion from specific procurements. Offerors and their agents who have questions regarding this matter should contact the buyer of record.
- c. Offerors are advised that any questions received less than ten calendar days prior to the RFP opening date may not be answered.

3.2 Competitive Negotiation of Proposals:

- 3.2.1 The offeror is advised that under the provisions of this Request for Proposal, the Division of Purchasing and Materials Management reserves the right to conduct negotiations of the proposals received or to award a contract without negotiations. If such negotiations are conducted, the following conditions shall apply:
- a. Negotiations may be conducted in person, in writing, or by telephone.
 - b. Negotiations will only be conducted with potentially acceptable proposals. The Division of Purchasing and Materials Management reserves the right to limit negotiations to those proposals which received the highest rankings during the initial evaluation phase. All offerors involved in the negotiation process will be invited to submit a best and final offer.
 - c. Terms, conditions, prices, methodology, or other features of the offeror’s proposal may be subject to negotiation and subsequent revision. As part of the negotiations, the offeror may be required to submit supporting financial, pricing and other data in order to allow a detailed evaluation of the feasibility, reasonableness, and acceptability of the proposal.
 - d. The mandatory requirements of the Request for Proposal shall not be negotiable and shall remain unchanged unless the Division of Purchasing and Materials Management determines that a change in such requirements is in the best interest of the State of Missouri.

3.3 Evaluation and Award Process:

- 3.3.1 After determining that a proposal satisfies the mandatory requirements stated in the Request for Proposal, the evaluator(s) shall use both objective analysis and subjective judgment in conducting a comparative assessment of the proposal in accordance with the evaluation criteria stated below:
- a. Cost..... 40 points
 - b. Experience and Reliability..... 30 points
 - c. Expertise of Personnel 20 points
 - d. Method of Performance 10 points
- 3.3.2 After an initial screening process, a question and answer conference or interview may be conducted with the offeror, if deemed necessary by the Division of Purchasing and Materials Management. In addition, the offeror may be asked to make an oral presentation of their proposal during the conference. Attendance cost at the conference shall be at the offeror's expense. All arrangements and scheduling shall be coordinated by the Division of Purchasing and Materials Management.
- 3.3.3 Preference for Organizations for the Blind and Sheltered Workshops - Pursuant to 34.165 RSMo, a five (5) bonus point preference shall be granted to offerors including products and/or services manufactured, produced or assembled by a qualified nonprofit organization for the blind established pursuant to 41 U.S.C. sections 46 to 48c or a sheltered workshop holding a certificate of approval from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education pursuant to section 178.920 RSMo. Five bonus points will be added to the total evaluation points for offerors qualifying for the preference.
- a. If the offeror is an organization for the blind or sheltered workshop, the offeror should provide evidence of qualifications (i.e., copy of certificate or certificate number).
 - b. If the offeror is utilizing an organization for the blind or a sheltered workshop as a subcontractor, the offeror should submit: (1) a letter of intent signed by the organization for the blind or sheltered workshop describing the products/services they will provide and indicating their commitment to aid the contractor’s performance under the prospective state contract and (2) evidence that the subcontractor qualifies as an organization for the blind or sheltered workshop.

- c. A list of Missouri sheltered workshops can be found at the following internet address:
<http://www.dese.mo.gov/divspeced/shelteredworkshops/index.html>.

3.4 Evaluation of Cost:

- 3.4.1 The objective evaluation of cost shall be based upon the sum of the prices stated on the Pricing Page for the original contract period and each potential renewal period.

Cost points shall be calculated based on the sum from the above calculation using the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{Lowest Responsive Price}}{\text{Compared Price}} \times 40 = \text{Cost score points}$$

3.5 Evaluation of Offeror's Experience and Reliability:

- 3.5.1 Experience and reliability of the offeror's organization are considered subjectively in the evaluation process. Therefore, the offeror is advised to submit any information which documents successful and reliable experience in past performances, especially those performances related to the requirements of this RFP.
- 3.5.2 The offeror should provide, on Exhibit A or in any other format, the following information related to previous and current services/contracts performed by the offeror's organization and any proposed subcontractors which are similar to the requirements of this RFP. In addition, the offeror should obtain the signature of the contact person referenced on the Exhibit verifying that that information presented is accurate. The contact person's signature also represents that the contact person is willing and will be available for contact by the State of Missouri in order to discuss the services performed by the offeror for the contact person's company.
- a. Name, address, and telephone number of client/contracting agency and a representative of that client/agency who may be contacted for verification of all information submitted;
 - b. Dates of the service/contract; and
 - c. A brief, written description of the specific prior services performed and requirements thereof.
- 3.5.3 Business Compliance - The offeror must be in compliance with the laws regarding conducting business in the State of Missouri. The offeror certifies by signing the signature page of this original document and any amendment signature page(s) that the offeror and any proposed subcontractors are presently in compliance with such laws. The offeror shall provide documentation of compliance upon request by the Division of Purchasing and Materials Management. The compliance to conduct business in the state shall include, but not necessarily be limited to:
- a. Registration of business name (if applicable)
 - b. Certificate of authority to transact business/certificate of good standing (if applicable)
 - c. Taxes (e.g., city/county/state/federal)
 - d. State and local certifications (e.g., professions/occupations/activities)
 - e. Licenses and permits (e.g., city/county license, sales permits)
 - f. Insurance (e.g., worker's compensation/unemployment compensation)
- 3.5.4 Debarment Certification - Offerors should complete and return the attached certification regarding debarment, etc., Exhibit C with their proposal. This document must be satisfactorily completed prior to award of the contract.

3.6 Evaluation of Expertise of Offeror's Personnel:

- 3.6.1 The qualifications of the personnel proposed by the offeror to perform the requirements of this RFP, whether from the offeror's organization or from a proposed subcontractor, will be subjectively evaluated. Therefore, the offeror should submit detailed information related to the experience and qualifications, including education and training, of proposed personnel. Specifically, the offeror should submit the detailed information for the proposed members of the site visit teams.

- a. The offeror may utilize Exhibit B for summarizing the personnel information and should submit detailed resumes for proposed key personnel.
 - 1) Resumes should be structured to emphasize relevant qualifications and experience of the personnel in successfully completing contracts/performing services of a similar size and scope to the requirements of this RFP.
 - 2) Information submitted should clearly identify previous experience in performing similar services and should include beginning and ending dates, a description of the role of the person in such performances, results of the services performed, and how the person's involvement in that project will relate to the person's ability to contribute to the State of Missouri.
- b. If personnel are not yet hired, the offeror should provide detailed descriptions of the required employment qualifications; and detailed job descriptions of the position to be filled, including the type of person proposed to be hired.

3.6.2 The offeror should submit a copy of all licenses and/or certifications related to the performance of the services required herein that are held by the personnel proposed to provide such services. If not submitted with the proposal, the State of Missouri reserves the right to request and obtain a copy of any license or certification required to perform the defined services prior to contract award.

3.7 Evaluation of Method of Performance:

3.7.1 Proposals will be subjectively evaluated based on the offeror's distinctive plan for performing the requirements of the RFP. Therefore, the offeror should present a written narrative which demonstrates the method or manner in which the offeror proposes to satisfy these requirements. The language of the narrative should be straightforward and limited to facts, solutions to problems, and plans of action.

3.7.2 The method by which the proposed method of performance is written is left to the discretion of the offeror. The following method may be used:

On Exhibit D, or in any other appropriate format, identify each specific paragraph and subparagraph of the Contractual Requirements by paragraph number as an item for discussion. Immediately below the number, write a description of how, when, by whom, with what, to what degree, why, where, etc., the requirements will be satisfied and otherwise detail the offeror's understanding of the requirements and ability to successfully perform.

3.7.3 In presenting the method of performance, the offeror should submit or describe the following:

- a. Methods to recruit health care providers to participate in the AFIX and VFC site visits and the CASA.
- b. Provide a description of the economic impact returned to the State of Missouri through tax revenue obligations.
- c. Provide a description of the company's economic presence within the State of Missouri (e.g., type of facilities: sales offices; sales outlets; divisions; manufacturing; warehouse; other), including Missouri employee statistics.

3.7.4 The offeror should provide an organizational chart showing the staffing and lines of authority for the key personnel to be used.

- a. The organizational chart should outline the team proposed for this project and the relationship of those team members to each other and to the management structure of the offeror's organization.
- b. The organizational chart should include the following information:
 - 1) The relationship of service personnel to management and support personnel.
 - 2) The names of the personnel and the working titles of each.
 - 3) Any proposed subcontractors including management, supervisory, and other key personnel.

c. Along with a detailed organizational chart, the offeror should describe the following:

- 1) how services of the contract will be managed, controlled, and supervised in order to ensure satisfactory contract performance.
- 2) Total Personnel Resources - The offeror should provide information that documents the depth of resources to ensure completion of all requirements on time and on target. If the offeror has other ongoing contracts that also require personnel resources, the offeror should document how sufficient resources will be provided to the State of Missouri.

3.8 Miscellaneous Information - The offeror should complete Exhibit E, Miscellaneous Information, to document: (1) if the offeror qualifies as either a qualified nonprofit organization for the blind or a sheltered workshop, or if the offeror is proposing to include products and/or services manufactured, produced, or assembled by such an organization, (2) whether the offeror and/or any of the owners of the offeror's organization are currently an employee of the State of Missouri, a member of the General Assembly, or a statewide elected official, and (3) if any products and/or services offered under the RFP are being manufactured or performed at sites outside the continental United States.

4. PRICING PAGE

- 4.1 The offeror shall provide firm fixed prices in the table below for the original contract period and a maximum price for each potential renewal period for providing the services in accordance with the provisions and requirements of this RFP. All costs associated with providing the required services shall be included in the stated price(s). (c/s code: 94936)

Original Contract Period	
Item 001 Per completed non-VFC health care provider CASA/AFIX process	\$ _____ firm, fixed price
Item 002 Per completed non-VFC health care provider follow-up CASA/AFIX visit	\$ _____ firm, fixed price
Item 003 Per completed VFC health care provider CASA/AFIX site visit	\$ _____ firm, fixed price
First Renewal Period	
Item 001 Per completed non-VFC health care provider CASA/AFIX process	\$ _____ maximum price
Item 002 Per completed non-VFC health care provider follow-up CASA/AFIX visit	\$ _____ maximum price
Item 003 Per completed VFC health care provider CASA/AFIX site visit	\$ _____ maximum price
Second Renewal Period	
Item 001 Per completed non-VFC health care provider CASA/AFIX process	\$ _____ maximum price
Item 002 Per completed non-VFC health care provider follow-up CASA/AFIX visit	\$ _____ maximum price
Item 003 Per completed VFC health care provider CASA/AFIX site visit	\$ _____ maximum price
Third Renewal Period	
Item 001 Per completed non-VFC health care provider CASA/AFIX process	\$ _____ maximum price
Item 002 Per completed non-VFC health care provider follow-up CASA/AFIX visit	\$ _____ maximum price
Item 003 Per completed VFC health care provider CASA/AFIX site visit	\$ _____ maximum price

EXHIBIT A**PRIOR EXPERIENCE OF OFFEROR**

The offeror should copy and complete this form for each reference being submitted as demonstration of the offeror and subcontractor's prior experience. In addition, the offeror is advised that if the contact person listed for the reference is unable to be reached during the evaluation, the listed experience may not be considered.

Offeror/Subcontractor Name:	
Reference Information (Prior Services Performed For:)	
Name of Reference Company:	
Address of Reference Company:	
Reference Contact Person Name:	
Contact Person Phone #	
Contact Person e-mail address:	
Dates of Prior Services:	
Dollar Value of Prior Services	
Description of Prior Services Performed	

EXHIBIT B
PERSONNEL EXPERTISE SUMMARY
(Also attach resumes for key personnel)

Personnel	Background and Expertise of Personnel
1.	<div><div></div><div>(Name)</div><div></div><div>(Title)</div></div> <hr/>
2.	<div><div></div><div>(Name)</div><div></div><div>(Title)</div></div> <hr/>
3.	<div><div></div><div>(Name)</div><div></div><div>(Title)</div></div> <hr/>
4.	<div><div></div><div>(Name)</div><div></div><div>(Title)</div></div> <hr/>
5.	<div><div></div><div>(Name)</div><div></div><div>(Title)</div></div> <hr/>
6.	<div><div></div><div>(Name)</div><div></div><div>(Title)</div></div> <hr/>
7.	<div><div></div><div>(Name)</div><div></div><div>(Title)</div></div> <hr/>

EXHIBIT C

Certification Regarding
Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion
Lower Tier Covered Transactions

This certification is required by the regulations implementing Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, 29 CFR Part 98 Section 98.510, Participants' responsibilities. The regulations were published as Part VII of the May 26, 1988, Federal Register (pages 19160-19211).

(BEFORE COMPLETING CERTIFICATION, READ INSTRUCTIONS FOR CERTIFICATION)

- (1) The prospective recipient of Federal assistance funds certifies, by submission of this proposal, that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.
- (2) Where the prospective recipient of Federal assistance funds is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

Name and Title of Authorized Representative

Signature

Date

Instructions for Certification

1. By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective recipient of Federal assistance funds is providing the certification as set out below.
2. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that the prospective recipient of Federal assistance funds knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the Department of Labor (DOL) may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.
3. The prospective recipient of Federal assistance funds shall provide immediate written notice to the person to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective recipient of Federal assistance funds learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
4. The terms "covered transaction," "debarred," "suspended," "ineligible," "lower tier covered transaction," "participant," "person," "primary covered transaction," "principal," "proposal," and "voluntarily excluded," as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the person to which this proposal is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.
5. The prospective recipient of Federal assistance funds agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the DOL.
6. The prospective recipient of Federal assistance funds further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include the clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion - Lower Tier Covered Transactions," without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.
7. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may but is not required to check the List of Parties Excluded from Procurement or Nonprocurement Programs.
8. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
9. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 5 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the DOL may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

EXHIBIT D

METHOD OF PERFORMANCE

The offeror may use this form, or any format desired, to present a written plan for performing the requirements specified in this Request for Proposal.

EXHIBIT E**MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION****Organizations for the Blind or Sheltered Workshop**

If the offeror qualifies as either a nonprofit organization for the blind or a sheltered workshop, or if the offeror is proposing to include products and/or services manufactured, produced, or assembled by such an organization, the offeror should identify the name of the organization in the space below and should attach all supporting documentation, as referenced elsewhere herein.

Name & Address of Organization for Blind/Sheltered Workshop:	_____

Outside United States

If any products and/or services offered under this RFP are being manufactured or performed at sites outside the continental United States, the offeror MUST disclose such fact and provide details in the space below or on an attached page.

Are products and/or services being manufactured or performed at sites outside the continental United States?	Yes _____	No _____
Describe and provide details:		

Employee Bidding/Conflict of Interest

Offerors who are employees of the State of Missouri, a member of the General Assembly or a statewide elected official must comply with Sections 105.450 to 105.458 RSMo regarding conflict of interest. If the offeror and/or any of the owners of the offeror's organization are currently an employee of the State of Missouri, a member of the General Assembly or a statewide elected official, please provide the following information.

Name of State Employee, General Assembly Member, or Statewide Elected Official:	
In what office/agency are they employed?	
Employment Title:	
Percentage of ownership interest in offeror's organization:	_____ %

**STATE OF MISSOURI
DIVISION OF PURCHASING AND MATERIALS MANAGEMENT
TERMS AND CONDITIONS -- REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

1. TERMINOLOGY/DEFINITIONS

Whenever the following words and expressions appear in a Request for Proposal (RFP) document or any amendment thereto, the definition or meaning described below shall apply.

- a. **Agency and/or State Agency** means the statutory unit of state government in the State of Missouri for which the equipment, supplies, and/or services are being purchased by the **Division of Purchasing and Materials Management (DPMM)**. The agency is also responsible for payment.
- b. **Amendment** means a written, official modification to an RFP or to a contract.
- c. **Attachment** applies to all forms which are included with an RFP to incorporate any informational data or requirements related to the performance requirements and/or specifications.
- d. **Proposal Opening Date and Time** and similar expressions mean the exact deadline required by the RFP for the receipt of sealed proposals.
- e. **Offeror** means the person or organization that responds to an RFP by submitting a proposal with prices to provide the equipment, supplies, and/or services as required in the RFP document.
- f. **Buyer** means the procurement staff member of the DPMM. The **Contact Person** as referenced herein is usually the Buyer.
- g. **Contract** means a legal and binding agreement between two or more competent parties, for a consideration for the procurement of equipment, supplies, and/or services.
- h. **Contractor** means a person or organization who is a successful offeror as a result of an RFP and who enters into a contract.
- i. **Exhibit** applies to forms which are included with an RFP for the offeror to complete and submit with the sealed proposal prior to the specified opening date and time.
- j. **Request for Proposal (RFP)** means the solicitation document issued by the DPMM to potential offerors for the purchase of equipment, supplies, and/or services as described in the document. The definition includes these Terms and Conditions as well as all Pricing Pages, Exhibits, Attachments, and Amendments thereto.
- k. **May** means that a certain feature, component, or action is permissible, but not required.
- l. **Must** means that a certain feature, component, or action is a mandatory condition.
- m. **Pricing Page(s)** applies to the form(s) on which the offeror must state the price(s) applicable for the equipment, supplies, and/or services required in the RFP. The pricing pages must be completed and submitted by the offeror with the sealed proposal prior to the specified proposal opening date and time.
- n. **RSMo (Revised Statutes of Missouri)** refers to the body of laws enacted by the Legislature which govern the operations of all agencies of the State of Missouri. Chapter 34 of the statutes is the primary chapter governing the operations of DPMM.
- o. **Shall** has the same meaning as the word **must**.
- p. **Should** means that a certain feature, component and/or action is desirable but not mandatory.

2. APPLICABLE LAWS AND REGULATIONS

- a. The contract shall be construed according to the laws of the State of Missouri. The contractor shall comply with all local, state, and federal laws and regulations related to the performance of the contract to the extent that the same may be applicable.
- b. To the extent that a provision of the contract is contrary to the Constitution or laws of the State of Missouri or of the United States, the provisions shall be void and unenforceable. However, the balance of the contract shall remain in force between the parties unless terminated by consent of both the contractor and the DPMM.
- c. The contractor must be registered and maintain good standing with the Secretary of State of the State of Missouri and other regulatory agencies, as may be required by law or regulations.
- d. The contractor must timely file and pay all Missouri sales, withholding, corporate and any other required Missouri tax returns and taxes, including interest and additions to tax.
- e. The exclusive venue for any legal proceeding relating to or arising out of the RFP or resulting contract shall be in the Circuit Court of Cole County, Missouri.

3. OPEN COMPETITION/REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL DOCUMENT

- a. It shall be the offeror's responsibility to ask questions, request changes or clarification, or otherwise advise the DPMM if any language, specifications or requirements of an RFP appear to be ambiguous, contradictory, and/or arbitrary, or appear to inadvertently restrict or limit the requirements stated in the RFP to a single source. Any and all communication from offerors regarding specifications, requirements, competitive proposal process, etc., must be directed to the buyer from the DPMM, unless the RFP specifically refers the offeror to another contact. Such communication should be received at least ten calendar days prior to the official proposal opening date.
- b. Every attempt shall be made to ensure that the offeror receives an adequate and prompt response. However, in order to maintain a fair and equitable procurement process, all offerors will be advised, via the issuance of an amendment to the RFP, of any relevant or pertinent information related to the procurement. Therefore, offerors are advised that unless specified elsewhere in the RFP, any questions received less than ten calendar days prior to the RFP opening date may not be answered.
- c. Offerors are cautioned that the only official position of the State of Missouri is that which is issued by the DPMM in the RFP or an amendment thereto. No other means of communication, whether oral or written, shall be construed as a formal or official response or statement.
- d. The DPMM monitors all procurement activities to detect any possibility of deliberate restraint of competition, collusion among offerors, price-fixing by offerors, or any other anticompetitive conduct by offerors which appears to violate state and federal antitrust laws. Any suspected violation shall be referred to the Missouri Attorney General's Office for appropriate action.
- e. The RFP is available for viewing and downloading on the state's On-Line Bidding website. Registered vendors are electronically notified or mailed the RFP based on the information maintained in the State of Missouri's vendor database. If any portion of the address is incorrect, the offeror must notify the buyer in writing or update the address themselves on the state's On-Line Bidding website.
- f. The DPMM reserves the right to officially amend or cancel an RFP after issuance.

4. PREPARATION OF PROPOSALS

- a. Offerors **must** examine the entire RFP carefully. Failure to do so shall be at offeror's risk.
- b. Unless otherwise specifically stated in the RFP, all specifications and requirements constitute minimum requirements. All proposals must meet or exceed the stated specifications and requirements.
- c. Unless otherwise specifically stated in the RFP, any manufacturer names, trade names, brand names, information and/or catalog numbers listed in a specification and/or requirement are for informational purposes only and are not intended to limit competition. The offeror may offer any brand which meets or exceeds the specification for any item, but must state the manufacturer's name and model number for any such brands in the proposal. In addition, the offeror shall explain, in detail, (1) the reasons why the proposed equivalent meets or exceeds the specifications and/or requirements and (2) why the proposed equivalent should not be considered an exception thereto. Proposals which do not comply with the requirements and specifications are subject to rejection without clarification.
- d. Proposals lacking any indication of intent to offer an alternate brand or to take an exception shall be received and considered in complete compliance with the specifications and requirements as listed in the RFP.

- e. In the event that the offeror is an agency of state government or other such political subdivision which is prohibited by law or court decision from complying with certain provisions of an RFP, such a offeror may submit a proposal which contains a list of statutory limitations and identification of those prohibitive clauses which will be modified via a clarification conference between the DPMM and the offeror, if such offeror is selected for contract award. The clarification conference will be conducted in order to agree to language that reflects the intent and compliance of such law and/or court order and the RFP. Any such offeror needs to include in the proposal, a complete list of statutory references and citations for each provision of the RFP which is affected by this paragraph.
- f. All equipment and supplies offered in a proposal must be new, of current production, and available for marketing by the manufacturer unless the RFP clearly specifies that used, reconditioned, or remanufactured equipment and supplies may be offered.
- g. Prices shall include all packing, handling and shipping charges FOB destination, freight prepaid and allowed unless otherwise specified in the RFP.
- h. Prices offered shall remain valid for 90 days from proposal opening unless otherwise indicated. If the proposal is accepted, prices shall be firm for the specified contract period.
- i. Any foreign offeror not having an Employer Identification Number assigned by the United States Internal Revenue Service (IRS) must submit a completed IRS Form W-8 prior to or with the submission of their proposal in order to be considered for award.

5. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

- a. Proposals may be submitted by delivery of a hard copy to the DPMM office. Electronic submission of proposals through the State of Missouri's On-Line Bidding website is not available unless stipulated in the RFP. Delivered proposals must be sealed in an envelope or container, and received in the DPMM office located at 301 West High St, Rm 630 in Jefferson City, MO no later than the exact opening time and date specified in the RFP. All proposals must (1) be submitted by a duly authorized representative of the offeror's organization, (2) contain all information required by the RFP, and (3) be priced as required. Hard copy proposals may be mailed to the DPMM post office box address. However, it shall be the responsibility of the offeror to ensure their proposal is in the DPMM office (address listed above) no later than the exact opening time and date specified in the RFP.
- b. The sealed envelope or container containing a proposal should be clearly marked on the outside with (1) the official RFP number and (2) the official opening date and time. Different proposals should not be placed in the same envelope, although copies of the same proposal may be placed in the same envelope.
- c. A proposal submitted electronically may be modified on-line prior to the official opening date and time. A proposal which has been delivered to the DPMM office, may be modified by signed, written notice which has been received by the DPMM prior to the official opening date and time specified. A proposal may also be modified in person by the offeror or its authorized representative, provided proper identification is presented before the official opening date and time. Telephone or telegraphic requests to modify a proposal shall not be honored.
- d. A proposal submitted electronically may be canceled on-line prior to the official opening date and time. A proposal which has been delivered to the DPMM office, may only be withdrawn by a signed, written notice or facsimile which has been received by the DPMM prior to the official opening date and time specified. A proposal may also be withdrawn in person by the offeror or its authorized representative, provided proper identification is presented before the official opening date and time. Telephone or telegraphic requests to withdraw a proposal shall not be honored.
- e. When submitting a proposal electronically, the offeror indicates acceptance of all RFP terms and conditions by clicking on the "Submit" button on the Electronic Bid Response Entry form. Offerors delivering a hard copy proposal to DPMM must sign and return the RFP cover page or, if applicable, the cover page of the last amendment thereto in order to constitute acceptance by the offeror of all RFP terms and conditions. Failure to do so may result in rejection of the proposal unless the offeror's full compliance with those documents is indicated elsewhere within the offeror's response.

6. PROPOSAL OPENING

- a. Proposal openings are public on the opening date and at the opening time specified on the RFP document. Only the names of the respondents shall be read at the proposal opening and posted on the state's On-Line Bidding website. The contents of the responses shall not be disclosed at this time.
- b. Proposals which are not received in the DPMM office prior to the official opening date and time shall be considered late, regardless of the degree of lateness, and normally will not be opened. Late proposals may only be opened under extraordinary circumstances in accordance with 1 CSR 40-1.050.

7. PREFERENCES

- a. In the evaluation of proposals, preferences shall be applied in accordance with Chapter 34 RSMo. Contractors should apply the same preferences in selecting subcontractors.
- b. By virtue of statutory authority, a preference will be given to materials, products, supplies, provisions and all other articles produced, manufactured, made or grown within the State of Missouri and to all firms, corporations or individuals doing business as Missouri firms, corporations or individuals. Such preference shall be given when quality is equal or better and delivered price is the same or less.
- c. In accordance with Executive Order 98-21, contractors are encouraged and may be required per the RFP to utilize certified minority and women-owned businesses in selecting subcontractors.

8. EVALUATION/AWARD

- a. Any clerical error, apparent on its face, may be corrected by the buyer before contract award. Upon discovering an apparent clerical error, the buyer shall contact the offeror and request clarification of the intended proposal. The correction shall be incorporated in the notice of award. Examples of apparent clerical errors are: 1) misplacement of a decimal point; and 2) obvious mistake in designation of unit.
- b. Any pricing information submitted by an offeror shall be subject to evaluation if deemed by the DPMM to be in the best interest of the State of Missouri.
- c. The offeror is encouraged to propose price discounts for prompt payment or propose other price discounts that would benefit the State of Missouri. However, unless otherwise specified in the RFP, pricing shall be evaluated at the maximum potential financial liability to the State of Missouri.
- d. Awards shall be made to the offeror whose proposal (1) complies with all mandatory specifications and requirements of the RFP and (2) is the lowest and best proposal, considering price, responsibility of the offeror, and all other evaluation criteria specified in the RFP and any subsequent negotiations and (3) complies with Sections 34.010 and 34.070 RSMo and Executive Order 04-09.
- e. In the event all offerors fail to meet the same mandatory requirement in an RFP, DPMM reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to waive that requirement for all offerors and to proceed with the evaluation. In addition, the DPMM reserves the right to waive any minor irregularity or technicality found in any individual proposal.
- f. The DPMM reserves the right to reject any and all proposals.
- g. When evaluating a proposal, the State of Missouri reserves the right to consider relevant information and fact, whether gained from a proposal, from a offeror, from offeror's references, or from any other source.
- h. Any information submitted with the proposal, regardless of the format or placement of such information, may be considered in making decisions related to the responsiveness and merit of a proposal and the award of a contract.
- i. Negotiations may be conducted with those offerors who submit potentially acceptable proposals. Proposal revisions may be permitted for the purpose of obtaining best and final offers. In conducting negotiations, there shall be no disclosure of any information submitted by competing offerors.
- j. Any award of a contract shall be made by notification from the DPMM to the successful offeror. The DPMM reserves the right to make awards by item, group of items, or an all or none basis. The grouping of items awarded shall be determined by DPMM based upon factors such as item similarity, location, administrative efficiency, or other considerations in the best interest of the State of Missouri.
- k. Pursuant to Section 610.021 RSMo, proposals and related documents shall not be available for public review until after a contract is executed or all proposals are rejected.

- l. The DPMM posts all proposal results on the On-line Bidding website for a reasonable period after proposal award and maintains images of all proposal file material for review. Offerors who include an email address with their proposal will be notified of the award results via email.
- m. The DPMM reserves the right to request clarification of any portion of the offeror's response in order to verify the intent of the offeror. The offeror is cautioned, however, that its response may be subject to acceptance or rejection without further clarification.
- n. Any proposal award protest must be received within ten (10) calendar days after the date of award in accordance with the requirements of 1 CSR 40-1.050 (10).
- o. The final determination of contract(s) award shall be made by DPMM.

9. CONTRACT/PURCHASE ORDER

- a. By submitting a proposal, the offeror agrees to furnish any and all equipment, supplies and/or services specified in the RFP, at the prices quoted, pursuant to all requirements and specifications contained therein.
- b. A binding contract shall consist of: (1) the RFP, amendments thereto, and/or Best and Final Offer (BAFO) request(s) with RFP changes/additions, (2) the contractor's proposal including the contractor's BAFO, and (3) DPMM's acceptance of the proposal by "notice of award" or by "purchase order."
- c. A notice of award does not constitute an authorization for shipment of equipment or supplies or a directive to proceed with services. Before providing equipment, supplies and/or services, the contractor must receive a properly authorized purchase order.
- d. The contract expresses the complete agreement of the parties and performance shall be governed solely by the specifications and requirements contained therein. Any change, whether by modification and/or supplementation, must be accomplished by a formal contract amendment signed and approved by and between the duly authorized representative of the contractor and the DPMM or by a modified purchase order prior to the effective date of such modification. The contractor expressly and explicitly understands and agrees that no other method and/or no other document, including correspondence, acts, and oral communications by or from any person, shall be used or construed as an amendment or modification.

10. INVOICING AND PAYMENT

- a. The State of Missouri does not pay state or federal taxes unless otherwise required under law or regulation.
- b. The statewide financial management system has been designed to capture certain receipt and payment information. Therefore, each invoice submitted must reference the purchase order number and must be itemized in accordance with items listed on the purchase order. Failure to comply with this requirement may delay processing of invoices for payment.
- c. The contractor shall not transfer any interest in the contract, whether by assignment or otherwise, without the prior written consent of the DPMM.
- d. Payment for all equipment, supplies, and/or services required herein shall be made in arrears unless otherwise indicated in the RFP.
- e. The State of Missouri assumes no obligation for equipment, supplies, and/or services shipped or provided in excess of the quantity ordered. Any unauthorized quantity is subject to the state's rejection and shall be returned at the contractor's expense.
- f. All invoices for equipment, supplies, and/or services purchased by the State of Missouri shall be subject to late payment charges as provided in Section 34.055 RSMo.

11. DELIVERY

Time is of the essence. Deliveries of equipment, supplies, and/or services must be made no later than the time stated in the contract or within a reasonable period of time, if a specific time is not stated.

12. INSPECTION AND ACCEPTANCE

- a. No equipment, supplies, and/or services received by an agency of the state pursuant to a contract shall be deemed accepted until the agency has had reasonable opportunity to inspect said equipment, supplies, and/or services.
- b. All equipment, supplies, and/or services which do not comply with the specifications and/or requirements or which are otherwise unacceptable or defective may be rejected. In addition, all equipment, supplies, and/or services which are discovered to be defective or which do not conform to any warranty of the contractor upon inspection (or at any later time if the defects contained were not reasonably ascertainable upon the initial inspection) may be rejected.
- c. The State of Missouri reserves the right to return any such rejected shipment at the contractor's expense for full credit or replacement and to specify a reasonable date by which replacements must be received.
- d. The State of Missouri's right to reject any unacceptable equipment, supplies, and/or services shall not exclude any other legal, equitable or contractual remedies the state may have.

13. WARRANTY

- a. The contractor expressly warrants that all equipment, supplies, and/or services provided shall: (1) conform to each and every specification, drawing, sample or other description which was furnished to or adopted by the DPMM, (2) be fit and sufficient for the purpose expressed in the RFP, (3) be merchantable, (4) be of good materials and workmanship, and (5) be free from defect.
- b. Such warranty shall survive delivery and shall not be deemed waived either by reason of the state's acceptance of or payment for said equipment, supplies, and/or services.

14. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- a. Officials and employees of the state agency, its governing body, or any other public officials of the State of Missouri must comply with Sections 105.452 and 105.454 RSMo regarding conflict of interest.
- b. The contractor hereby covenants that at the time of the submission of the proposal the contractor has no other contractual relationships which would create any actual or perceived conflict of interest. The contractor further agrees that during the term of the contract neither the contractor nor any of its employees shall acquire any other contractual relationships which create such a conflict.

15. REMEDIES AND RIGHTS

- a. No provision in the contract shall be construed, expressly or implied, as a waiver by the State of Missouri of any existing or future right and/or remedy available by law in the event of any claim by the State of Missouri of the contractor's default or breach of contract.
- b. The contractor agrees and understands that the contract shall constitute an assignment by the contractor to the State of Missouri of all rights, title and interest in and to all causes of action that the contractor may have under the antitrust laws of the United States or the State of Missouri for which causes of action have accrued or will accrue as the result of or in relation to the particular equipment, supplies, and/or services purchased or procured by the contractor in the fulfillment of the contract with the State of Missouri.

16. CANCELLATION OF CONTRACT

- a. In the event of material breach of the contractual obligations by the contractor, the DPMM may cancel the contract. At its sole discretion, the DPMM may give the contractor an opportunity to cure the breach or to explain how the breach will be cured. The actual cure must be completed within no more than 10 working days from notification, or at a minimum the contractor must provide DPMM within 10 working days from notification a written plan detailing how the contractor intends to cure the breach.

- b. If the contractor fails to cure the breach or if circumstances demand immediate action, the DPMM will issue a notice of cancellation terminating the contract immediately.
- c. If the DPMM cancels the contract for breach, the DPMM reserves the right to obtain the equipment, supplies, and/or services to be provided pursuant to the contract from other sources and upon such terms and in such manner as the DPMM deems appropriate and charge the contractor for any additional costs incurred thereby.
- d. The contractor understands and agrees that funds required to fund the contract must be appropriated by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri for each fiscal year included within the contract period. The contract shall not be binding upon the state for any period in which funds have not been appropriated, and the state shall not be liable for any costs associated with termination caused by lack of appropriations.

17. COMMUNICATIONS AND NOTICES

Any notice to the contractor shall be deemed sufficient when deposited in the United States mail postage prepaid, transmitted by facsimile, transmitted by e-mail or hand-carried and presented to an authorized employee of the contractor.

18. BANKRUPTCY OR INSOLVENCY

- a. Upon filing for any bankruptcy or insolvency proceeding by or against the contractor, whether voluntary or involuntary, or upon the appointment of a receiver, trustee, or assignee for the benefit of creditors, the contractor must notify the DPMM immediately.
- b. Upon learning of any such actions, the DPMM reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to either cancel the contract or affirm the contract and hold the contractor responsible for damages.

19. INVENTIONS, PATENTS AND COPYRIGHTS

The contractor shall defend, protect, and hold harmless the State of Missouri, its officers, agents, and employees against all suits of law or in equity resulting from patent and copyright infringement concerning the contractor's performance or products produced under the terms of the contract.

20. NON-DISCRIMINATION AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

In connection with the furnishing of equipment, supplies, and/or services under the contract, the contractor and all subcontractors shall agree not to discriminate against recipients of services or employees or applicants for employment on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, or veteran status. If the contractor or subcontractor employs at least 50 persons, they shall have and maintain an affirmative action program which shall include:

- a. A written policy statement committing the organization to affirmative action and assigning management responsibilities and procedures for evaluation and dissemination;
- b. The identification of a person designated to handle affirmative action;
- c. The establishment of non-discriminatory selection standards, objective measures to analyze recruitment, an upward mobility system, a wage and salary structure, and standards applicable to layoff, recall, discharge, demotion, and discipline;
- d. The exclusion of discrimination from all collective bargaining agreements; and
- e. Performance of an internal audit of the reporting system to monitor execution and to provide for future planning.

If discrimination by a contractor is found to exist, the DPMM shall take appropriate enforcement action which may include, but not necessarily be limited to, cancellation of the contract, suspension, or debarment by the DPMM until corrective action by the contractor is made and ensured, and referral to the Attorney General's Office, whichever enforcement action may be deemed most appropriate.

21. AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

In connection with the furnishing of equipment, supplies, and/or services under the contract, the contractor and all subcontractors shall comply with all applicable requirements and provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

22. FILING AND PAYMENT OF TAXES

The commissioner of administration and other agencies to which the state purchasing law applies shall not contract for goods or services with a vendor if the vendor or an affiliate of the vendor makes sales at retail of tangible personal property or for the purpose of storage, use, or consumption in this state but fails to collect and properly pay the tax as provided in chapter 144, RSMo. For the purposes of this section, "affiliate of the vendor" shall mean any person or entity that is controlled by or is under common control with the vendor, whether through stock ownership or otherwise. Therefore offeror's failure to maintain compliance with chapter 144, RSMo may eliminate their proposal from consideration for award.

23. TITLES

Titles of paragraphs used herein are for the purpose of facilitating reference only and shall not be construed to infer a contractual construction of language.